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NRO review(s) completed.

CORONA

COR-0356 26 Feb 1959
TMA MFR re COR Trip of
19-20 Feb 1959

Primary objective:

Conduct engineering development of a practical laboratory for testing of certain major components of an over-all system of great potential to the nation and its defense. The benefit derived from this system will be classified to the maximum to prevent the development of countermeasures which could seriously reduce the effectiveness of the system and its period of service to the nation. Certain information of potential use to other satellite programs will be disseminated through properly coordinated channels in accordance with sound security practices. Holds due to payloads will be directed by those responsible for such payloads.

Actually, the primary objective refers to the development of the COR payload, but in guarded language. Were we to telemeter photographic results, such could be monitored. Actually, the state of the art has been advanced and the system can be considered novel and of great potential to the nation and its defense. Should it become publicly known that the objective is reconnaissance such public knowledge could seriously reduce the effectiveness of the system and its service to the nation. And the statement that certain information of potential use to other satellite programs will be disseminated is in fact true for it is not intended that improvements made in this satellite program will be denied other programs endeavoring to improve the nation's storehouse of weapons.

ILLEGIB